INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

S-E-C-R-E-T

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COUNTRY Hungary

SUBJECT 1. Explosives Factory at Füzfögyartelep
2. Other Hungarian Explosives Factories

REPORT

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Füzfögyartelep Factory

1. Explosives production at the Füzfögyartelep, Hungary, explosives factory was resumed, after the interruption occasioned by World War II, in 1948. By 1951 some ten tons of gunpowder and ten tons of TNT were manufactured daily, as well as undisclosed amounts of nitrocellulose lacquer and various pyrotechnical substances. The raw materials--glycerine, nitric acid, and ammonium nitrate--were supplied from Hungarian sources, but the cellulose for dynamite was imported from Czechoslovakia. After 1950, the production of explosives in Hungary was largely taken over by a new factory at Miskolc. As of May 1957 the following explosives were still being manufactured at the Füzfögyartelep plant: dynamite (containing nitro-glycerine), two tons per day; nitro-glycerine; and nitro-cellulose. In addition, the following were produced: nitro-cellulose lacquer, porous aminoplast (insulation material for refrigerator cars being built at Györ), aminoplast powder, an unidentified silicon anti-foaming agent used in the asphalting of roads, and various plant sprays (DDT, 2.4.D, a hormone weed-killer, and trinitroresorsine).

2. Future plans called for an expanded production of dynamite to permit exportation to Communist China and of nitro-cellulose lacquer for exportation to the other Soviet-bloc states.

3. The research department at the Füzfögyartelep plant had branches for the investigation of silicones, detergents, and explosives, as well as an analytical branch. The explosives branch also prepared silicium tetrachloride and titanium tetrachloride.

4. The following members of the plant staff have been identified;

a. Kalman Urda, plant director: studied three years at the Stalin Academy in Moscow

b. Varszeg, fnu: secretary to Urda

c. Dr. Tivadar Kompolthy: chemical engineer

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d. Dr. Istvan Gebhardt: chemical engineer

e. Dr. Bela Bobest: chemical engineer

f. Laszlo Soltesz: chemical engineer

g. Laszlo Demeny: chemical engineer

h. Laszlo Moldovanyi: research analyst

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5. The factory area, 500 hectares, was surrounded by a barbed-wire fence which was patrolled by the AVH. The guards had 25 watch-dogs at their disposal. Plant employees wore a badge and carried a factory pass.

Other Explosives Plants

6. Peremarton: A factory employing 700 to 800 workers manufactures explosive agents for mines and artificial fertilizers on a phosphoric-acid base.

7. Szekesfehervar: The Banyagyutacs-gyar, which employs less than 1,000 workers, manufactures delayed-action igniters for mines, as well as ordinary pocket lighters.

8. Nagyteteny: Fairly large plant for the production of finely-powdered aluminum and magnesium for pyrotechnical use.

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